

Xhosa	
<i>isiXhosa</i>	
Pronunciation	[ˈ ɪ ɪˈ^hɔsa]
Native to	South Africa
Region	Eastern Cape, <div></div> Western Cape, <div></div> KwaZulu-Natal, <div></div> Northern Cape, <div></div> Free State
Ethnicity	Xhosa
Native speakers	8.2 million (2020 March 08) ^[1] <div></div> 11 million L2 speakers (2002) ^[2] <div></div> isiXhosa is one of the official languages in post democratic South Africa.
Language family	<div>Niger–Congo</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Atlantic–Congo<ul style="list-style-type: none">Volta-Congo<ul style="list-style-type: none">Benue–Congo<ul style="list-style-type: none">Bantoid<ul style="list-style-type: none">Southern Bantoid<ul style="list-style-type: none">Bantu<ul style="list-style-type: none">Southern Bantu<ul style="list-style-type: none">Nguni<ul style="list-style-type: none">Zunda<ul style="list-style-type: none">Xhosa
Writing system	Latin (Xhosa alphabet) <div></div> Xhosa Braille
Signed forms	Signed Xhosa ^[3]
Official status	
Official language in	 South Africa

Xhosa is part of the branch of Nguni languages known as Zunda languages, which also include Zulu, Southern Ndebele and Northern Ndebele.^[12] Zunda languages effectively form a dialect continuum of variously mutually intelligible varieties.

Xhosa is, to some extent, mutually intelligible with Zulu and Northern Ndebele, and other Nguni languages to a lesser extent. Nguni languages are, in turn, part of the much larger group of Bantu languages.^{[13][14]}

Geographical distribution

Xhosa is the most widely distributed African language in South Africa, though the most widely spoken African language is Zulu.^[13] It is the second most common home language in South Africa as a whole. As of 2003 approximately 5.3 million Xhosa-speakers, the majority, live in the Eastern Cape, followed by the Western Cape (approximately 2 million), Gauteng (671,045), the Free State (246,192), KwaZulu-Natal (219,826), North West (214,461), Mpumalanga (46,553), the Northern Cape (51,228), and Limpopo (14,225).^[15] There is a small but significant Xhosa community of about 200,000 in Zimbabwe.^[16] Also, a small community of Xhosa speakers (18,000) live in Quthing District, Lesotho.^[17]

Dialects

Xhosa has several dialects. Maho (2009) lists Mpondo (Pondo), Xesibe, Bomvana, Gaika (Ngqika), Gcaleka, Thembu, Mpondomise, Ndlambe, and Hlubi.^[5]

Hlubi is the dialect in the former Ciskei; there is the more distinct Hlubi language further north, where Xhosa meets SeSotho.

Phonology

Vowels

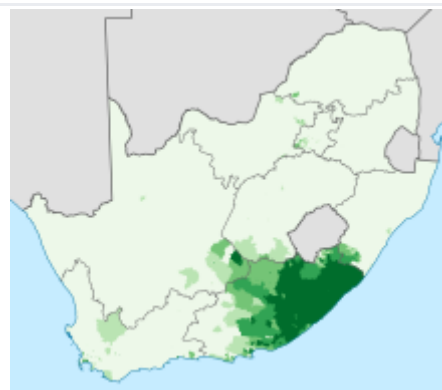
Xhosa has an inventory of ten vowels: [a], [ɛ~e], [i], [ɔ~o] and [u] written *a*, *e*, *i*, *o* and *u* in order, all occurring in both long and short. The /i/ vowel will be long in the penultimate syllable and short in the last syllable.^[18]



Zimbabwe

Language codes

ISO 639-1	xh (https://www.iso.gov/standards/iso639-2/php/langcodes_name.php?iso_639_1=xh)
ISO 639-2	xho (https://www.loc.gov/standards/iso639-2/php/langcodes_name.php?code_ID=492)
ISO 639-3	xho
Glottolog	xhos1239 (http://glottolog.org/resource/languoid/id/xhos1239) ^[4]
Guthrie code	S.41 ^[5]
Linguasphere	99-AUT-fa (http://linguasphere.info/?page=linguасcale&linguacode=99-AUT-fa) incl. varieties 99-AUT-faa to 99-AUT-faj + 99-AUT-fb (isiHlubi)



Proportion of the South African population that speaks Xhosa at home

- ☐ 0–20%
- ☐ 20–40%
- ☐ 40–60%
- ☐ 60–80%
- ☐ 80–100%

IsiXhosa

Xhosa vowel phonemes

	Front		Back	
	short	long	short	long
Close	i ⟨i⟩	i: ⟨ii⟩	u ⟨u⟩	u: ⟨uu⟩
Mid	ɛ ⟨e⟩	e: ⟨ee⟩	ɔ ⟨o⟩	o: ⟨oo⟩
Open			a ⟨a⟩	a: ⟨aa⟩

Tones

Xhosa is a tonal language with two inherent phonemic tones: low and high. Tones are rarely marked in the written language, but they can be indicated *a* [à], *á* [á], *â* [áà], *ä* [àá]. Long vowels are phonemic but are usually not written except for *â* and *ä*, which are each sequences of two vowels with different tones that are realized as long vowels with contour tones (*â* high–low = falling, *ä* low–high = rising).

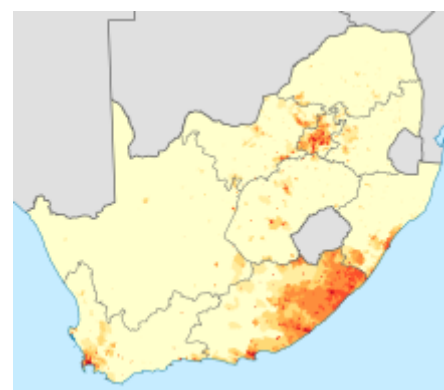
Consonants

Xhosa is rich in uncommon consonants. Besides pulmonic egressive sounds, which are found in all spoken languages, it has a series of ejective stops and one implosive stop.

It has 18 click consonants (in comparison, Jul'hoan, spoken in Botswana and Namibia, has 48, and Taa, with roughly 4,000 speakers in Botswana, has 83). There is a series of six dental clicks, represented by the letter ⟨c⟩, similar to the sound represented in English by "tut-tut" or "tsk-tsk"; a series of six alveolar lateral clicks, represented by the letter ⟨x⟩, similar to the sound used to call horses; and a series of alveolar clicks, represented by the letter ⟨q⟩, that sound somewhat like a cork pulled from a bottle.

The following table lists the consonant phonemes of the language, with the pronunciation in IPA on the left and the orthography on the right:

Person	umXhosa
People	amaXhosa
Language	isiXhosa
Country	KwaXhosa



Geographical distribution of the Xhosa in South Africa: density of Xhosa home-language speakers.

<input type="checkbox"/>	< 1 /km ²
<input type="checkbox"/>	1–3 /km ²
<input type="checkbox"/>	3–10 /km ²
<input type="checkbox"/>	10–30 /km ²
<input type="checkbox"/>	30–100 /km ²
<input type="checkbox"/>	100–300 /km ²
<input type="checkbox"/>	300–1000 /km ²
<input type="checkbox"/>	1000–3000 /km ²
<input type="checkbox"/>	> 3000 /km ²



Trilingual government building sign in Afrikaans, English and Xhosa



Sign outside the AmaZink township theatre restaurant in Kayamandi welcoming visitors in Xhosa

0:00 / 0:00

Spoken Xhosa

		<u>Labial</u>	<u>Dental/Alveolar</u>		<u>Postalveolar</u>	<u>Velar</u>		<u>Glottal</u>
			<u>central</u>	<u>lateral</u>		<u>central</u>	<u>lateral</u>	
<u>Click</u>	<u>tenuis/ejective</u> ^[19]		[k '] c	[kll '] x	[k! '] q			
	<u>aspirated</u>		[k ^h] ch	[kll ^h] xh	[k! ^h] qh			
	<u>slack voice</u>		[ǵ ^h] gc	[ǵll ^h] gx	[ǵ! ^h] gq			
	<u>nasal</u>		[ŋ] nc	[ŋll] nx	[ŋ!] nq			
	<u>slack-voice nasal</u> ^[20]		[ŋ ^h] ngc	[ŋll ^h] ngx	[ŋ! ^h] ngq			
	<u>glottalised nasal</u> ^[21]		[ŋ ʔ] nkc	[ŋll ʔ] nkx	[ŋ! ʔ] nkq			
<u>Plosive</u>	<u>tenuis/ejective</u>	[p '] p	[t '] t		[tʃ '] ty	[k '] k		
	<u>aspirated</u>	[p ^h] ph	[t ^h] th		[tʃ ^h] tyh	[k ^h] kh		
	<u>slack voice</u>	[b̥ ^h] bh	[d̥ ^h] d		[d̥ʃ ^h] dy	[ǵ ^h] g		
	<u>implosive</u>	[b] b						
<u>Affricate</u>	<u>ejective</u>		[ts '] ts		[tʃ '] tsh	[kx '] kr	[kɿ ₅ '] kl	
	<u>aspirated</u>		[ts ^h] ths		[tʃ ^h] thsh	[kx ^h] krh		
	<u>slack voice</u>		[dʒ ^h] dz ³		[dʒʃ ^h] j			
<u>Fricative</u>	<u>voiceless</u>	[f] f	[s] s	[ɬ] hl	[ʃ] sh	[x] rh		[h] h
	<u>slack voice</u>	[v̥] v	[z̥] z	[ɬ̥] dl	[ʃ̥] zh ²	[χ̥] gr		[h̥] hh
<u>Nasal</u>	<u>fully voiced</u>	[m] m	[n] n		[ɳ̥] ny	[ŋ] ng '		
	<u>slack voice</u>	[m̥] mh	[n̥] nh		[ɳ̥̊] nyh	[ŋ̊] ngh ⁴		
<u>Approximant</u>	<u>fully voiced</u>			[l] l	[j] y	[w] w		
	<u>slack voice</u>			[ɭ̥] lh	[j̥] yh	[w̥] wh		
<u>Trill</u>	<u>fully voiced</u>		[r] r ¹					
	<u>breathy voiced</u>		[ɽ̥] r ¹					

1. Two additional consonants, [r] and [ɽ̥], are found in borrowings. Both are spelled *r*.
2. Two additional consonants, [ʒ] and [ʒ̥], are found in borrowings. Both are spelled *zh*.
3. Two additional consonants, [dʒ] and [dʒ̥], are found in loans. Both are spelled *dz*.
4. An additional consonant, [ŋ̊] is found in loans. It is spelled *ngh*.
5. The onset cluster /kl/ from phonologized loanwords such as *ikliniki* "the clinic" can be realized as a single consonant [kɿ '].

In addition to the ejective affricate [tʃ '], the spelling *tsh* may also be used for either of the aspirated affricates [ts ^h] and [tʃ ^h].

The breathy voiced glottal fricative [h] is sometimes spelled *h*.

The ejectives tend to be ejective only in careful pronunciation or in salient positions and, even then, only for some speakers. Otherwise, they tend to be tenuis (plain) stops. Similarly, the tenuis (plain) clicks are often glottalised, with a long voice onset time, but that is uncommon.

The murmured clicks, plosives and affricates are only partially voiced, with the following vowel murmured for some speakers. That is, *da* may be pronounced [d^hə] (or, equivalently, [ɖə]). They are better described as slack voiced than as breathy voiced. They are truly voiced only after nasals, but the oral occlusion is then very short in stops, and it usually does not occur at all in clicks. Therefore, the absolute duration of voicing is the same as in tenuis stops. (They may also be voiced between vowels in some speaking styles.) The more notable characteristic is their depressor effect on the tone of the syllable.^[22]

Consonant changes with prenasalisation

When consonants are prenasalised, their pronunciation and spelling may change. The murmur no longer shifts to the following vowel. Fricatives become affricated and, if voiceless, they become ejectives as well, at least with some speakers: *mf* is pronounced [mpf^h], *ndl* is pronounced [ndʒ], *n+hl* becomes *ntl* [ntɬ^h], *n+z* becomes *ndz* [ndz], etc. The orthographic *b* in *mb* is the voiced plosive [mb]. Prenasalisation occurs in several contexts, including on roots with the class 9 prefix /iN-/, for example on an adjective which is feature-matching its noun:

/iN- + ɬɛ/ → [intɬɛ] "beautiful" (of a class 9 word like *inja* "dog")

When aspirated clicks (*ch*, *xh*, *qh*) are prenasalised, the silent letter *k* is added (*nkc*, *nkx*, *nkq*) to prevent confusion with the nasal clicks *nc*, *nx*, *nq*, and are actually distinct sounds. The prenasalized versions have a very short voicing at the onset which then releases in an ejective, like the prenasalized affricates, while the phonemically nasal clicks have a very long voicing through the consonant. When plain voiceless clicks (*c*, *x*, *q*) are prenasalized, they become slack voiced nasal (*ngc*, *ngx*, *ngq*).

List of consonant changes with prenasalisation

Phoneme	Prenasalised	Examples (roots with class 10 /iiN-/ prefix)	Rule
/p ^h /, /t ^h /, /t̥ ^{j h} /, /k ^h /	/mp/, /nt/, /nt̥ ^j /, /ŋk/	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>phumla</i> "to rest" → <i>iimpumlo</i> "noses" ▪ <i>thetha</i> "to speak" → <i>iintetho</i> "speeches" ▪ <i>tyhafa</i> "to weaken" → <i>iintyafo</i> "weaknesses" ▪ <i>khathala</i> "care about" → <i>iinkathalo</i> "cares" 	Aspiration is lost on obstruents.
/l/, /ll/, /!l/	/ŋl ^h /, /ŋll ^h /, /ŋ! ^h /	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>ucango</i> "door" → <i>iingcango</i> "doors" ▪ <i>uxande</i> "rectangle" → <i>iingxande</i> "rectangles" ▪ <i>uqeqesho</i> "training" → <i>iingqeqesho</i> "trainings" 	Voiced clicks become slack voiced nasal.
/k ^h /, /kll ^h /, /k! ^h /	/ŋl ['] /, /ŋll ['] /, /ŋ! ['] /	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>chaza</i> "to explain" → <i>iinkcazo</i> "descriptions" ▪ <i>xhasa</i> "to support" → <i>iinkxaso</i> "supports" ▪ <i>qhuba</i> "to continue" → <i>iinkqubo</i> "processes" 	Aspirated clicks become prenasalized ejected clicks.
/b/	/mb ^h /	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>ibali</i> "story" → <i>iimbali</i> "histories" 	Implosive becomes slack voiced.
/f/, /s/, /ʃ/, /ɬ/, /x/ /v/, /z/, /ʒ/, /ɣ/	[mpf], /nts/, /ntʃ/, /ntɬ/, / ŋkx/ [ŋḃv ^h], [ndz ^h], [ndɬ ^h], [ŋḡɣ ^h]?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>fuya</i> "to breed" → <i>iimfuyo</i> "breeds" ▪ <i>usana</i> "child" → <i>iintsana</i> "children" ▪ <i>shumayela</i> "to preach" → 	Fricatives become affricates. Only phonemic, and thus reflected orthographically, for /nts/, /ntʃ/, /ntɬ/ and /ŋkx/.

		<i>iintshumayelo</i> "sermons" <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>isihloko</i> "title" → <i>iintloko</i> "heads" ▪ <i>vuma</i> "approve" → <i>iimvume</i> "approvals" ▪ <i>zama</i> "try" → <i>iinzame</i> "attempts" ▪ <i>ukudleka</i> "wear and tear" → <i>iindleko</i> "costs" 	
/m/, /n/, /ŋ̱/, /ŋ/ /ĩ/, /ĩĩ/, /ĩĩ/	/m/, /n/, /ŋ̱/, /ŋ/ /ĩ/, /ĩĩ/, /ĩĩ/	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>umeyile</i> "Mr. Mule (as a storybook character)" → <i>iimeyile</i> "mules" ▪ <i>inovelì</i> "novel" → <i>iinovelì</i> "novels" ▪ <i>ngena</i> "bring in" → <i>ingeniso</i> "profit" ▪ <i>unyawo</i> "foot" → <i>iinyawo</i> "feet" ▪ <i>ncokola</i> "to chat" → <i>incoko</i> "conversation" ▪ <i>unxweme</i> "sea shore" → <i>iinxweme</i> "sea shores" ▪ <i>nqula</i> "worship" → <i>iinqula</i> "adam's apple" 	No change when the following consonant is itself a nasal.

Consonant changes with palatalisation

Palatalisation is a change that affects labial consonants whenever they are immediately followed by /j/. While palatalisation occurred historically, it is still productive, as is shown by palatalization before the passive suffix /-w/.

Moreover, Xhosa does not generally tolerate sequences of a labial consonant plus /w/. Whenever /w/ follows a labial consonant, it changes to /j/, which then triggers palatalisation of the consonant.

List of consonant changes with palatalisation

Original consonant	Palatalised consonant	Examples
p	tʃ	▪ <i>uku- + kopa + -wa</i> → <i>ukukotshwa</i> [ukuko ^{tʃ} wa] (to be copied)
p ^h	tʃ ^h	▪ <i>uku- + phuph + -wa</i> → <i>ukuphutshwa</i> [ukup ^h u ^{tʃ} ^h wa] (to be dreamt)
b ^h	ɖʒ ^h	▪ <i>uku- + gab + wa</i> → <i>ukugajwa</i> [ukugaɖʒ ^h wa] (to be thrown up)
b	t̪ ^j	▪ <i>ubu- + -ala</i> → <i>utywala</i> [ut̪ ^j wala] (alcohol)
m	n̪ ^j	▪ <i>uku- + zam + -wa</i> → <i>zanywa</i> [ukuzan̪ ^j wa] (to be tried on)
ṁ	ṇ̪ ^j	▪
mp	ntʃ	▪ <i>uku- + krwemp + wa</i> → <i>ukukrwentshwa</i> [ukukχ ^{w'} entʃwa] (to be scratched)
mɓ ^h	ndʒ ^h	▪ <i>uku + bamb + wa</i> → <i>ukubanjwa</i> [ukubandʒ ^h wa] (to be caught)

Morphology

In keeping with many other Southern Bantu languages, Xhosa is an agglutinative language, with an array of prefixes and suffixes that are attached to root words. As in other Bantu languages, nouns in Xhosa are classified into morphological classes, or genders (15 in Xhosa), with different prefixes for both singular and plural. Various parts of speech that qualify a noun must agree with the noun according to its gender. Agreements usually reflect part of the original class with which the word agrees. The word order is subject–verb–object, like in English.

The verb is modified by affixes to mark subject, object, tense, aspect and mood. The various parts of the sentence must agree in both class and number.^[13]

Nouns

The Xhosa noun consists of two essential parts, the prefix and the stem. Using the prefixes, nouns can be grouped into noun classes, which are numbered consecutively, to ease comparison with other Bantu languages.

The following table gives an overview of Xhosa noun classes, arranged according to singular-plural pairs.

Class	Singular	Plural
1/2	um-	aba-, abe-
1a/2a	u-	oo-
3/4	um-	imi-
5/6	i-, ili- ¹	ama-, ame-
7/8	is(i)- ²	iz(i)- ²
9/10	iN- ³	iiN- ³ , iziN- ⁴
11/10	u-, ulu- ¹ , ulw-, ul-	iiN- ³ , iziN- ⁴
14	ubu-, ub-, uty-	
15	uku-	
17	uku-	

¹ Before monosyllabic stems, e.g. ***iliso*** (eye), ***uluhlu*** (list).

² **is-** and **iz-** replace **isi-** and **izi-** respectively before stems beginning with a vowel, e.g. ***isandla/izandla*** (hand/hands).

³ The placeholder **N** in the prefixes **iN-** and **iiN-** for m, n or no letter at all.

⁴ Before monosyllabic stems in some words.

Verbs

Verbs use the following prefixes for the subject and object:

Person/ Class	Subject	Object
1st sing.	ndi-	-ndi-
2nd sing.	u-	-wu-
1st plur.	si-	-si-
2nd plur.	ni-	-ni-
1	u-	-m-
2	ba-	-ba-
3	u-	-m-
4	i-	-yi-
5	li-	-li-
6	a-	-wa-
7	si-	-si-
8	zi-	-zi-
9	i-	-yi-
10	zi-	-zi-
11	lu-	-lu-
14	bu-	-bu-
15	ku-	-ku-
17	ku-	-ku-
reflexive	—	-zi-

Examples

ukud**lala** – to play
 ukub**ona** – to see
 umntwana – a child
 abantwana – children

umntwana uy**a**dlala – the child is playing
 abantwana bay**a**dlala – the children are playing

indoda – a man
 amadoda – men

indoda iy**a**mbona umntwana – the man sees the child
 amadoda ay**a**babona abantwana – the men see the children

Sample phrases and text

The following is a list of phrases that can be used when one visits a region whose primary language is Xhosa:

Xhosa	English
Molo	Hello
Molweni	hello, to a group of people
Unjani?	how are you?
Ninjani?	How are you?, to a group of people
Ndiyaphila	I'm okay
Siyaphila	We're okay
Ndiyabulela (kakhulu)	Thank you (a lot)
Enkosi (kakhulu)	Thanks (a lot)
Ungubani igama lakho?	What is your name?
Igama lam' ngu....	My name is....
Lithini ixesha?	What is the time?
Ndingakunceda?	Can I help you?
uHambe kakuhle	Goodbye/go well/safe travels
Nihambe kakuhle	Goodbye/go well/safe travels (said to a group of people)
Ewe	Yes
Hayi	No
Andiyazi	I don't know
Uyakwazi ukuthetha isiNgesi?	Can you speak English?
Ndisaqala ukufunda isiXhosa	Ive just started learning Xhosa
Uqonda ukuthini?	What do you mean?
Utsho njani?	What do you mean?
Ndiyakuthanda	"I love you"

History

Xhosa-speaking people have inhabited coastal regions of southeastern Africa since before the 16th century. They refer to themselves as the *amaXhosa* and their language as *Xhosa*. AmaXhosa migrated to the east coast of Africa and came across Khoisan-speaking people; "as a result of this contact, the Xhosa people borrowed some Khoisan words along with their pronunciation, for instance, the click sounds of the Khoisan languages".^[23] The Bantu ancestor of Xhosa did not have clicks, which attests to a strong historical contact with a *San language* that did. An estimated 15% of Xhosa vocabulary is of San origin.^[17] In the modern period, it has also borrowed, slightly, from both *Afrikaans* and English.

John Bennie was a Scottish Presbyterian missionary and early Xhosa linguist. Bennie, along with John Ross (another missionary), set up a printing press in the *Tyhume* Valley and the first printed works in Xhosa came out in 1823 from the *Lovedale* Press in the Alice region of the Eastern Cape. But, as with any language, Xhosa had a rich history of oral traditions from which the society taught, informed, and entertained one another. The first Bible translation was in 1859, produced in part by *Henry Hare Dugmore*.^[17]

Role in modern society

The role of indigenous languages in South Africa is complex and ambiguous. Their use in education has been governed by legislation, beginning with the Bantu Education Act, 1953.^[13]

At present, Xhosa is used as the main language of instruction in many primary schools and some secondary schools, but is largely replaced by English after the early primary grades, even in schools mainly serving Xhosa-speaking communities. The language is also studied as a subject.

The language of instruction at universities in South Africa is English or Afrikaans, and Xhosa is taught as a subject, both for native and for non-native speakers.

Literary works, including prose and poetry, are available in Xhosa, as are newspapers and magazines. The South African Broadcasting Corporation broadcasts in Xhosa on both radio (on Umhlobo Wenene FM) and television, and films, plays and music are also produced in the language. The best-known performer of Xhosa songs outside South Africa was Miriam Makeba, whose *Click Song #1* (Xhosa *Qongqothwane*) and "Click Song #2" (*Baxabene Ooxam*) are known for their large number of click sounds.

In 1996, the literacy rate for first-language Xhosa speakers was estimated at 50%.^[17]

Anthem

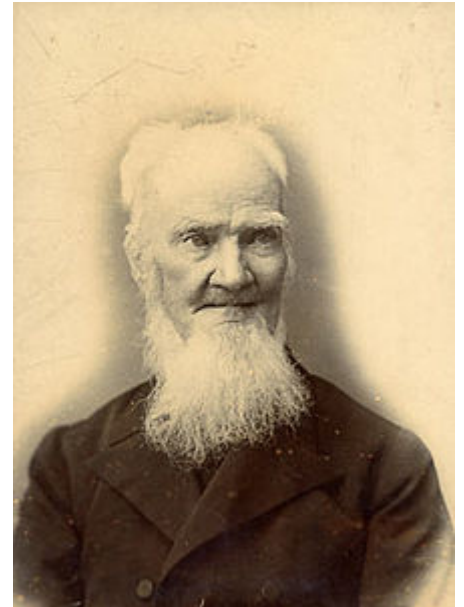
Nkosi Sikelel' iAfrika is part of the national anthem of South Africa, national anthem of Tanzania and Zambia, and the former anthem of Zimbabwe and Namibia. It is a Methodist hymn written in Xhosa by Enoch Sontonga in 1897. The original stanza was:

*Nkosi, sikelel' iAfrika;
Maluphakamis' uphondo lwayo;
Yiva imithandazo yethu
Nkosi sikelela, thina lusapho lwayo.*

Lord, bless Africa;
May her horn rise high up;
Hear Thou our prayers
Lord, bless us, your family.

Additional stanzas were written later by Sontonga and other writers, with the original verse translated into Sotho and Afrikaans, as well as English.

In popular culture



English missionary Henry Hare Dugmore helped translate the Bible into Xhosa in 1859



Nelson Mandela was Xhosa.

In the Marvel Cinematic Universe films *Captain America: Civil War* and *Black Panther*, the language spoken in the fictional African nation of Wakanda is Xhosa. This came about because South African actor John Kani, a native of the Eastern Cape province who plays Wakandan King T'Chaka, is Xhosa and suggested that the directors of the fictional *Civil War* incorporate a dialogue in the language. For *Black Panther*, director Ryan Coogler "wanted to make it a priority to use Xhosa as much as possible" in the script, and provided dialect coaches for the film's actors.^[24]

See also

- *I'solezwe lesiXhosa*, the first Xhosa-language newspaper
- *U-Carmen eKhayelitsha*, a 2005 Xhosa film adaptation of Bizet's Carmen
- UCLA Language Materials Project, an online project for teaching languages, including Xhosa.
- Xhosa calendar

References

1. Xhosa (<https://www.ethnologue.com/18/language/xho/>) at *Ethnologue* (18th ed., 2015)
2. Webb, Vic. 2002. "Language in South Africa: the role of language in national transformation, reconstruction and development." *Impact: Studies in language and society*, 14:78
3. Aarons & Reynolds, 2003, "South African Sign Language", in Monaghan, ed., *Many Ways to be Deaf: International Variation in Deaf Communities*
4. Hammarström, Harald; Forkel, Robert; Haspelmath, Martin, eds. (2017). "Xhosa" (<http://glottolog.org/resource/languoid/id/xhos1239>). *Glottolog 3.0*. Jena, Germany: Max Planck Institute for the Science of Human History.
5. Jouni Filip Maho, 2009. New Updated Guthrie List Online (<https://web.archive.org/web/20180203191542/http://goto.glocalnet.net/mahopapers/nuglonline.pdf>)
6. "Xhosa – Definition and pronunciation" (<http://www.oxfordlearnersdictionaries.com/definition/english/xhosa>). *Oxford Learner's Dictionaries*. Oxford University Press. Retrieved 16 April 2014.
7. "Xhosa – pronunciation of Xhosa" (<http://www.macmillandictionary.com/pronunciation/british/Xhosa>). *Macmillan Dictionary*. Macmillan Publishers Limited. Retrieved 16 April 2014.
8. Laurie Bauer, 2007, *The Linguistics Student's Handbook*, Edinburgh
9. "Xhosa alphabet, pronunciation and language" (<http://www.omniglot.com/writing/xhosa.htm>). *www.omniglot.com*. Retrieved 6 July 2017.
10. The following languages, namely Chewa, Chibarwe, English, Kalanga, Koisan, Nambya, Ndau, Ndebele, Shangani, Shona, sign language, Sotho, Tonga, Tswana, Venda, and Xhosa are the officially recognised languages of Zimbabwe. I([CONSTITUTION OF ZIMBABWE \(final draft\)](http://www.kubatana.net/docs/legisl/constitution_zim_draft_copac_130125.pdf)) (http://www.kubatana.net/docs/legisl/constitution_zim_draft_copac_130125.pdf) Archived (https://web.archive.org/web/20131002110534/http://www.kubatana.net/docs/legisl/constitution_zim_draft_copac_130125.pdf) 2013-10-02 at the Wayback Machine).
11. See Sands & Gunnink (2019) "Clicks on the fringes of the Kalahari Basin Area." In Clem et al. (eds), *Theory and Description in African Linguistics: Selected Papers from the 47th Annual Conference on African Linguistics*. Language Science Press, Berlin, pp. 703–724.
12. Online Xhosa-English Dictionary (<http://www.websters-online-dictionary.org/definition/Xhosa-english/>) Archived (<https://web.archive.org/web/20040413042205/http://www.websters-online-dictionary.org/definition/Xhosa-english/>) 13 April 2004 at the Wayback Machine
13. "Xhosa" (<https://web.archive.org/web/20071214071133/http://www.lmp.ucla.edu/Profile.aspx?LangID=21&menu=004>). *UCLA Language Materials Project*. Archived from the original (<http://www.lmp.ucla.edu/Profile.aspx?LangID=21&menu=004>) on 14 December 2007. Retrieved 13 December 2006.

14. "isiNdebele for beginners. Northern Ndebele language in Africa" (<http://www.northernndebele.blogspot.com>). *www.northernndebele.blogspot.com*. Retrieved 22 October 2019.
15. "South Africa Population grows to 44.8 Million" (https://web.archive.org/web/20050522081642/http://www.southafrica.info/ess_info/sa_glance/demographics/census-main.htm). *southafrica.info*. 9 July 2003. Archived from the original (http://www.southafrica.info/ess_info/sa_glance/demographics/census-main.htm) on 22 May 2005.
16. Hlenze Welsh Kunju, 2017 "Isixhosa Ulwimi Lwabantu Abangesosininzi eZimbabwe: Ukuphila Nokulondolozwa Kwaso" (http://vital.seals.ac.za:8080/vital/access/manager/Repository/vital:21250?site_name=GlobalView), PhD Dissertation, Rhodes University
17. "Xhosa" (<https://www.ethnologue.com/language/xho>). *Ethnologue*. Retrieved 22 October 2019.
18. William Branford (3 July 2015). *The Elements of English: An Introduction to the Principles of the Study of Language* (<https://books.google.com/books?id=WAgXCgAAQBAJ&pg=PA65>). Routledge. pp. 65–. ISBN 978-1-317-42065-1.
19. Jessen, Michael (2002). "An Acoustic Study of Contrasting Plosives and Click Accompaniments in Xhosa". *Phonetica*. **59** (2–3): 150–179. doi:10.1159/000066068 (<https://doi.org/10.1159/000066068>).
20. These are analogous to the slack-voice nasals *mh*, *nh*, etc. They are not prenasalized, as can be seen in words such as *umnggokolo* (overtone singing) and *umnggusho* in which they are preceded by a nasal.
21. per Derek Nurse, *The Bantu Languages*, p 616. Zulu does not have this series.
22. Jessen, Michael; Roux, Justus C. (2002). "Voice quality differences associated with stops and clicks in Xhosa". *Journal of Phonetics*. **30** (1): 1–52. doi:10.1006/jpho.2001.0150 (<https://doi.org/10.1006/jpho.2001.0150>).
23. "Xhosa | About World Languages" (<http://aboutworldlanguages.com/xhosa>). *aboutworldlanguages.com*. Retrieved 11 December 2017.
24. Eligon, John (16 February 2018). "Wakanda Is a Fake Country, but the African Language in 'Black Panther' is Real" (<https://www.nytimes.com/2018/02/16/us/wakanda-black-panther.html>). *The New York Times*. ISSN 0362-4331 (<https://www.worldcat.org/issn/0362-4331>). Retrieved 7 May 2018.

External links

- Xhosa language profile (<https://web.archive.org/web/20071214071133/http://www.lmp.ucla.edu/Profile.aspx?LangID=21&menu=004>)(at UCLA Language Materials Project) (<https://web.archive.org/web/20060720065425/http://www.pavelicpapers.com/documents/odpor/index.html>)
- PanAfrican L10n page on Xhosa (<https://web.archive.org/web/20070311094133/http://www.panafril10n.org/wikidoc/pmwiki.php/PanAfrLoc/Xhosa>)
- Learn Xhosa (<http://learn101.org/xhosa.php>)
- Xhosa basic lexicon at the Global Lexicostatistical Database (<http://starling.rinet.ru/cgi-bin/response.cgi?root=new100&morpho=0&basename=new100\bco\bns&first=0>)
- Paradisec has a collections of Arthur Capell's materials (AC1 (<http://catalog.paradisec.org.au/collections/AC1>)), which include Xhosa language materials

Retrieved from "https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Xhosa_language&oldid=967829305"

This page was last edited on 15 July 2020, at 15:26 (UTC).

Text is available under the [Creative Commons Attribution-ShareAlike License](#); additional terms may apply. By using this site, you agree to the [Terms of Use](#) and [Privacy Policy](#). Wikipedia® is a registered trademark of the [Wikimedia Foundation, Inc.](#), a non-profit organization.